

What Is Claimed Is: (US)

1. A method of acquiring slot timing when synchronizing a direct sequence spread spectrum communications receiver with transmissions of a network base station, the method comprising the steps of:

5        repetitively correlating a synchronization code received over a radio channel with a synchronization code stored in the receiver;

         assigning, at each repetitive correlation, a value to resulting peaks;

10        ranking the resulting peaks according to the assigned values; and

         selecting peaks with highest ranking for slot timing.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said assigned value is assigned as a set of numbers and each number in the set of numbers corresponds to a measured parameter of the resulting peaks.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein one number in the set of numbers corresponds to power of a resulting peak.

4. A method according to claim 2, wherein one number in the set of numbers corresponds to a position of a resulting peak.

5. A method according to claim 3, wherein one number in the set of numbers corresponds to a position of a resulting peak.

6. A method according to claim 2, wherein one number in the set of numbers corresponds to an order of a resulting peak.

7. A method according to claim 3, wherein one number in the set of numbers corresponds to an order of a resulting peak.

8. A method according to claim 4, wherein one number in the set of numbers corresponds to an order of a resulting peak.

9. A method according to claim 5, wherein one number in the set of numbers corresponds to an order of a resulting peak.

10. A method according to claim 1, wherein a ranking parameter is computed from a subset of the assigned values.

11. A method according to claim 2, wherein a ranking parameter is computed from a subset of the assigned values.

12. A method according to claim 10, wherein the

ranking parameter is computed as a sum of a product of the assigned values for power and for order.

13. A method according to claim 11, wherein the ranking parameter is computed as a sum of a product of the assigned values for power and for order.

14. A method according to claim 1, wherein a ranking parameter is derived from a subset of the assigned values and an additional factor.

15. A method according to claim 2, wherein a ranking parameter is derived from a subset of the assigned values and an additional factor.

16. A method according to claim 10, wherein the ranking parameter is derived from a subset of the assigned values and an additional factor.

17. A method according to claim 11, wherein the ranking parameter is derived from a subset of the assigned values and an additional factor.

18. A method according to claim 14, wherein the additional factor is age.

19. A method according to claim 15, wherein the

additional factor is age.

20. A method according to claim 14, wherein the ranking parameter is computed as a sum of a product of the assigned values for power, the assigned values for order and the additional factor for age.

21. A method according to claim 15, wherein the ranking parameter is computed as a sum of a product of the assigned values for power, the assigned values for order and the additional factor for age.